Newburyport, Feb. 16. 1865.

[of the Herald, G. L. Colby]

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Dear Friend/ Our weather-cock editor has shown you in a recent reference to yourself, personally, that Newburyport does move, and himself with it; other evidence shows the same also, as instance, the request of our respectable citizens, for you to address them on 22 Inst. I was particularly desirous, that any such request should emanate from the citizens at large, rather than the old friends of the cause. The request, as signed, is sufficient for the occasion, altho' hundreds might have been added. We anticipate with much plea= =sure your making your stay with us, and we hope you will be able to be here by the early afternoon trains with any of your family. cannot Francis Jackson Garrison accompany you? We wish if you can, you would spend the next day and night, so that for the next evening our house might be open, to receive any that would wish to pay their respects and greetings to you. Our friend Whittier

we hope, will meet you at our house, with an inspiration for the occasion. Will you please say the time and trains you will take, so that I may meet you at the depot. Mrs. A. has been very unwell for a few days past, but we hope she is improving. We write in pleasant greetings to you all, and pleasing anticipations for the coming occasion. I am truly & sincerely yours,

William Ashby.

We hope Mrs. Garrison's health is still improving, we all send our love to her.

Wm. Ashby,
Westmoreland,
Feb. 16, 1865.

On the invitation addressed to
W. L. G. by the citizens of N.